



**Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of
Victoria Lane Academy 2016**



School Vision/Mission Statement

As a school, Victoria Lane Academy recognises that each child is an individual; that all children are creative; that all children need to succeed. Therefore, our school respects the individual needs of children; fosters a caring and creative environment; and emphasises the social, emotional, physical and intellectual development of each child. Our aim is to ensure children become independent and self-sufficient adults who will succeed as lifelong learners and contribute responsibly in a global community.

The Governing Body of Victoria Lane Academy has a strong focus on its three core strategic functions:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
2. Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff; and
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Governance arrangements

The Governing Body of Victoria Lane Academy comprises thirteen governors. The Head Teacher and one staff member, two Parent Governors, one appointed by the Local Authority and seven governors appointed by Tudhoe Learning Trust. There is also one Associate Governor. The full Governing Body meets once a term and this meeting includes matters about finance and related matters. There are also sub-committees one of which is Pupil Outcomes, which also meet each term. This committee looks at all aspects of the education, progress, attainment and well being of all our children. There are also sub-committees which meet as and when required i.e. Personnel, Head Teacher Performance Management, Pay Review and Appeals. As a member of a multi-academy trust (Tudhoe Learning Trust) the Board of Directors also meets each term. The Chair of Governors of each academy within the Trust is a Director and is therefore a Board member. The Executive Head and Directors are legally responsible for the results from all academies and overall financial running of the Trust. The responsibilities of the Local Governing Body are laid out in a Scheme of Delegation produced by Tudhoe Learning Trust

Key Issues faced and addressed by the Governing Body

Each September, our Senior Leadership Team produces a School Development Plan, in consultation with all members of staff and Governors and Executive Head. This Plan lays out what requires doing to maintain the progress being made by our children and identifies where additional work needs to be done to keep all aspects of the curriculum at the forefront of our efforts to educate the children to the best of our ability and to give them every opportunity to become the best they can be. In September governors meet and receive a report from the Head Teacher on our results from KS1 and KS2 exam results and looks at other data, which is available. This forms the basis for what governors and SLT consider the areas where monitoring, by governors, will be most effective. Subject leaders produce reports for the GB throughout the year. The Head Teacher also produces a report each term, which is presented at

	<p>the full Governing Body meeting. This covers class structure and organisation, staff information and responsibilities and then headings which follow Ofsted criteria - The Quality of Leadership in, and Management of the School, Behaviour and Safety in School, The Quality of Teaching, Achievement and Overall Effectiveness. There are also sections on the Performance Management of staff, Pupil Premium, Sports Premium, if there are any looked after children, exclusions, and any incidents which require reporting. Governors are able to ask questions of the Head Teacher</p>
<p>Assessment of Impact</p>	<p>There are a number of different sources where the impact of what the staff and governors are doing can be measured. An Education Development Partner (EDP) comes into school to provide an independent assessment of the achievements and attainment of the children. The Department for Education (DfE) publish data for both schools and parents: - Data Dashboard, (which is being replaced from the end of September 2016) and school league tables (both can be seen on the website). The decisions on how well the children are doing across the school are checked independently (moderated) to ensure standards are being maintained. Then there are the inspections carried out by OFSTED – these inspections provide a rigorous testing of the schools judgement as to how well the school is doing. Victoria Lane Academy was inspected by OFSTED in May 2014 and was found to be GOOD. This is all due to the hard work and professionalism of all the staff. The Chief Executive Officer (Mr Jim Smith) is also involved in monitoring visits on a regular basis.</p>
<p>Future plans for the Governing Body</p>	<p>Staff and Governors must continue to seek to make continuous improvements to the way our children are educated and to adopt and adapt to the continual changes being made to the curriculum and many other aspects of school life. We cannot be complacent and allow the school to coast just because we have received a GOOD marking from OFSTED. However, to ensure the children continue to make good or outstanding progress it is necessary for parents to be fully involved in their child's education and support the school by ensuring that each child does their homework, reads and understands and comes to school on time and is ready to learn.</p>
<p>Contact Details</p>	<p>The Governing Body welcomes suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents/carers. Please contact the Chair of Governors c/o the school office.</p> <p>Details of the full Governing Body are on the school website.</p>